

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Governing Board Members

**FROM:** George L. Horne, Deputy Executive Director, Operations & Maintenance

**DATE:** December 02, 2008

**SUBJECT: 4600001640 - Cooperative Agreement with Natural Resources Conservation Services – Tropical Storm Fay Repair Projects**

**Background:** In August 2008, Tropical Storm Fay crossed the Florida peninsula four times causing extensive flood damages from heavy rains to District canals and structures in the northern portion of the District. The District has been actively pursuing financial assistance through the Natural Resource Conservation Services Emergency Watershed Protection Program, which assists municipalities and governmental agencies in the recovery efforts from named storm damages. This program shares the cost of repairs on a 75% (Federal) - 25% (Local Government) basis.

The District and Natural Resource Conservation Services have met, discussed, and identified three projects which meet the qualifying criteria for assistance under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. They are S65C, S65E, and L62 (PC01 culvert). Accordingly, an Interagency Agreement is necessary to receive assistance from Natural Resource Conservation Services to implement the identified projects. The agreement will reimburse the District for costs associated with repairs of canal flow, canal banks, and structures. Although the total cost of the proposed project is estimated to be \$383,350.00, the approved Project Agreement with Natural Resource Conservation Services for a \$383,350.00 cost share, of which 75% or \$287,512.50 is Natural Resource Conservation Services reimbursable.

**How this helps meet the District's 10-Year Strategic Plan:** Restore the District's ability to maintain canal conveyance and maintenance access within the regional system.

**Funding Source:** Funding is provided by a grant from Natural Resource Conservation Services for a \$383,350.00 cost share, of which 75% or \$287,512.50 is Natural Resource Conservation Services reimbursable.

**This Board item impacts what areas of the District, both resource areas and geography:**

The identified projects under the Interagency Agreement are located within the jurisdiction of the Okeechobee Field Station and impacts the Operations and Maintenance Resource Area.

**What concerns could this Board item raise?** The work is the result of a natural disaster and was not anticipated in the District work plan for the current Fiscal Year. Implementation of the work will require reallocation of resources and reprioritizing of the original anticipated work plan for this Fiscal Year.

**Why should the Governing Board approve this item?** This project will provide financial assistance to the District in repairing damaged facilities and restoring effective flood conveyance capacity.

GLH/ld